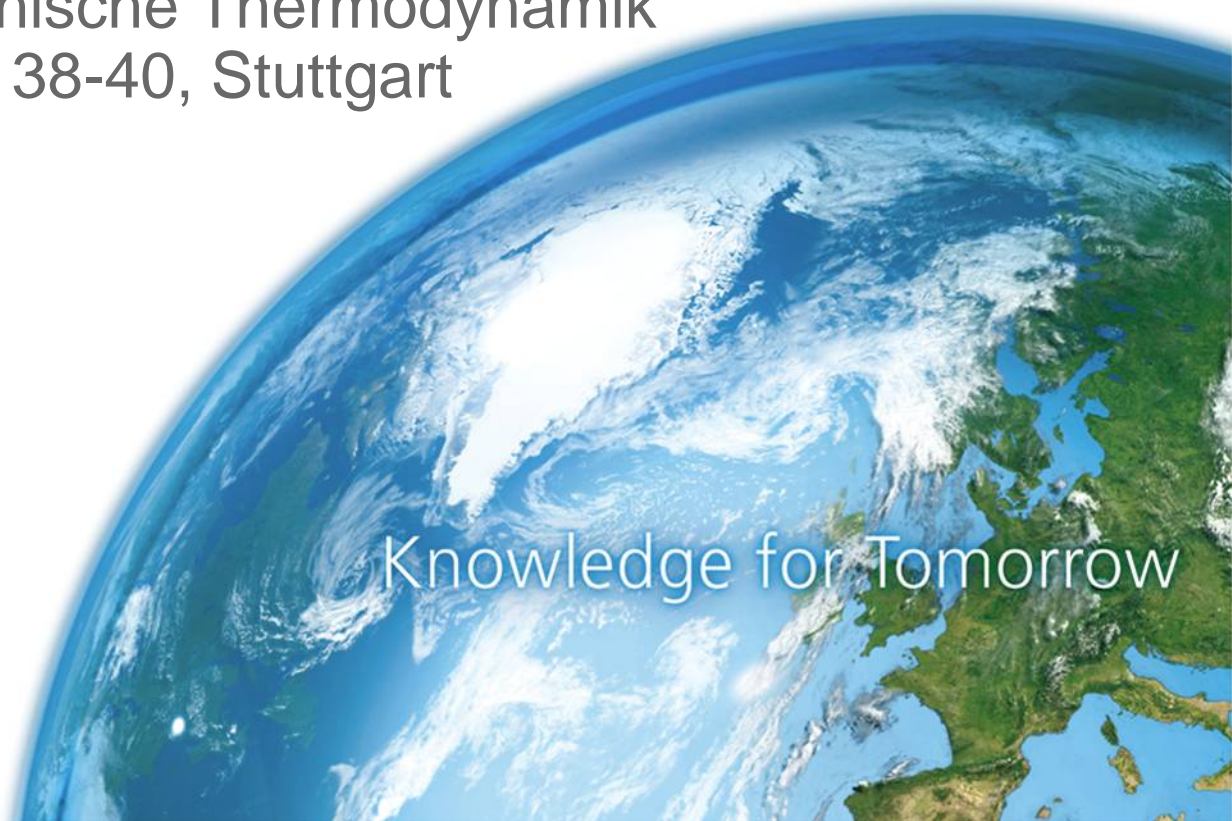


Fuel Cells for Aircraft Applications: Activities of DLR

K. Andreas Friedrich
Institut für Technische Thermodynamik
Pfaffenwaldring 38-40, Stuttgart



Knowledge for Tomorrow



Motivation: ACARE* 2020 Goals

- Very ambitious targets. Specified in Vision 2020 and ACARE 2050:

Goal	Vision 2020	ACARE 2050
CO ₂ Emission Reduction (Reduction per passenger kilometer)	50%	75%
NOx Emission Reduction (Reduction per passenger kilometer)	80%	90%
External Noise Reduction (Reduction per flying aircraft)	50%	65%
Fuel Consumption Reduction (Reduction per flying aircraft)	50%	NA

* Advisory Aeronautics Research in Europe

http://www.acare4europe.org/docs/Vision_2020.pdf

http://www.acare4europe.org/docs/Flightpath2050_Final.pdf



Motivation for Fuel Cell System Application

Ecological and Economical A/C Operation Aspects



Ecological Aspects:

Emission reduction

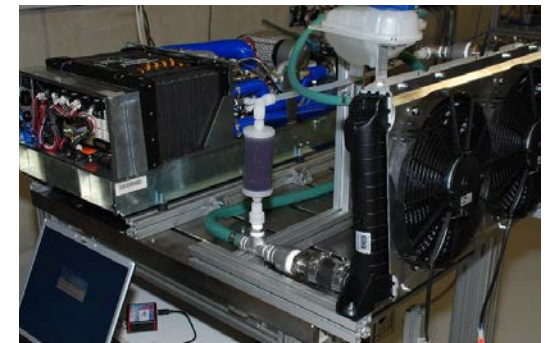
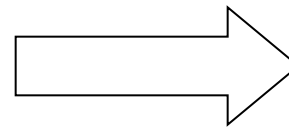
Higher fuel economy

Noise reduction



$\eta_{\text{APU}} \sim 20 \%$

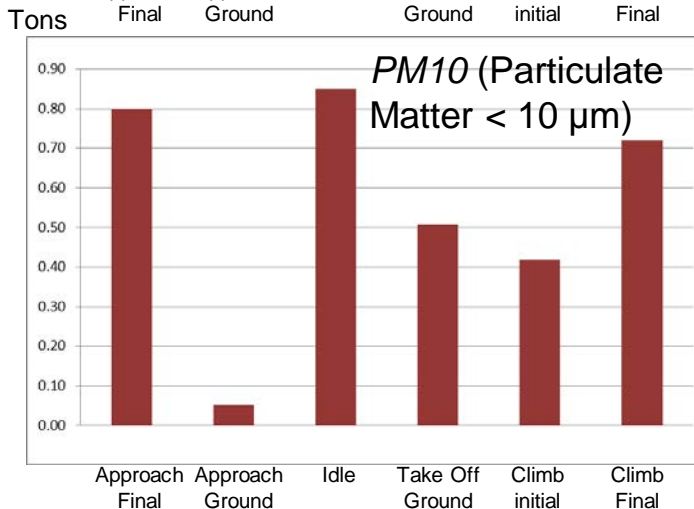
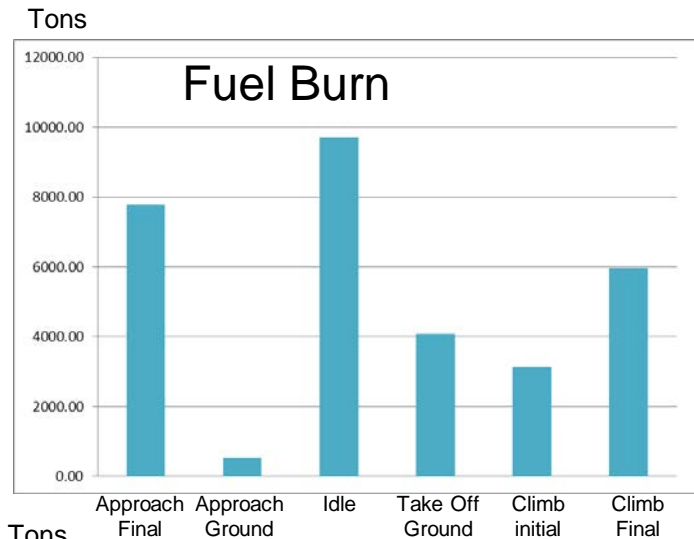
$\eta_{\text{idle}} \sim 10 \%$



$\eta_{\text{APU}} \sim 40 \%$

$\eta_{\text{idle}} \sim 50 \%$

Ecological Aspects at Airports

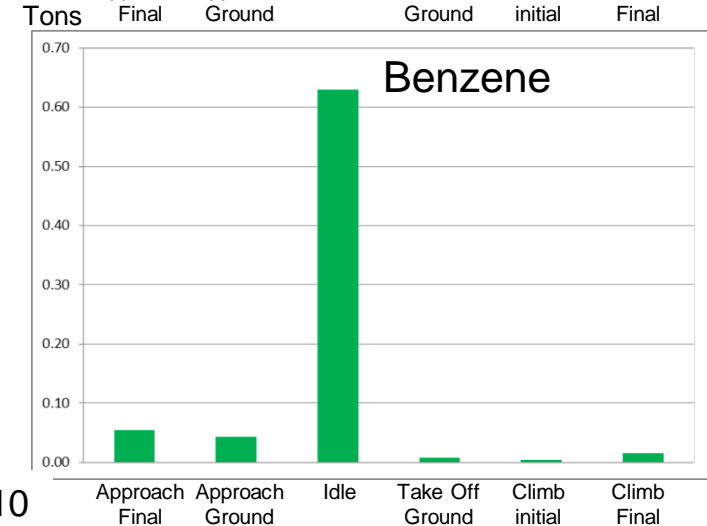
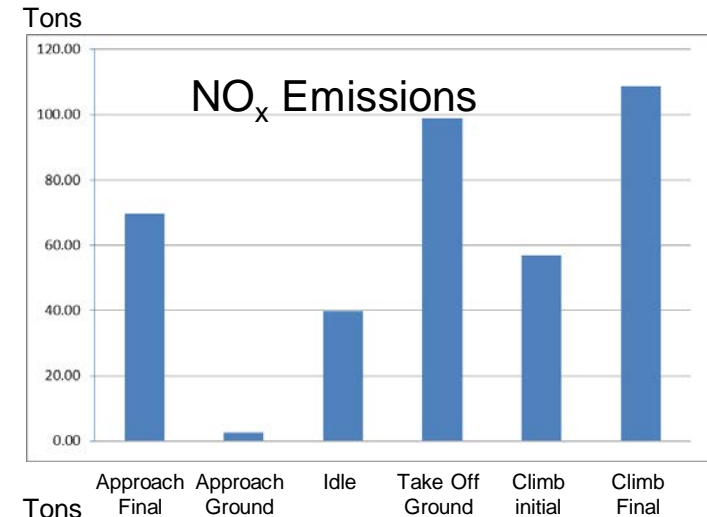


- **35% of fuel consumption** from idling engines or APU (ca. 10 kT/ year or 5680 Flights STR-HAM)

- Ca. **11% of nitrous oxides emissions** from idling engines or APU

- Ca. **45% of particulate matter** from APU operation

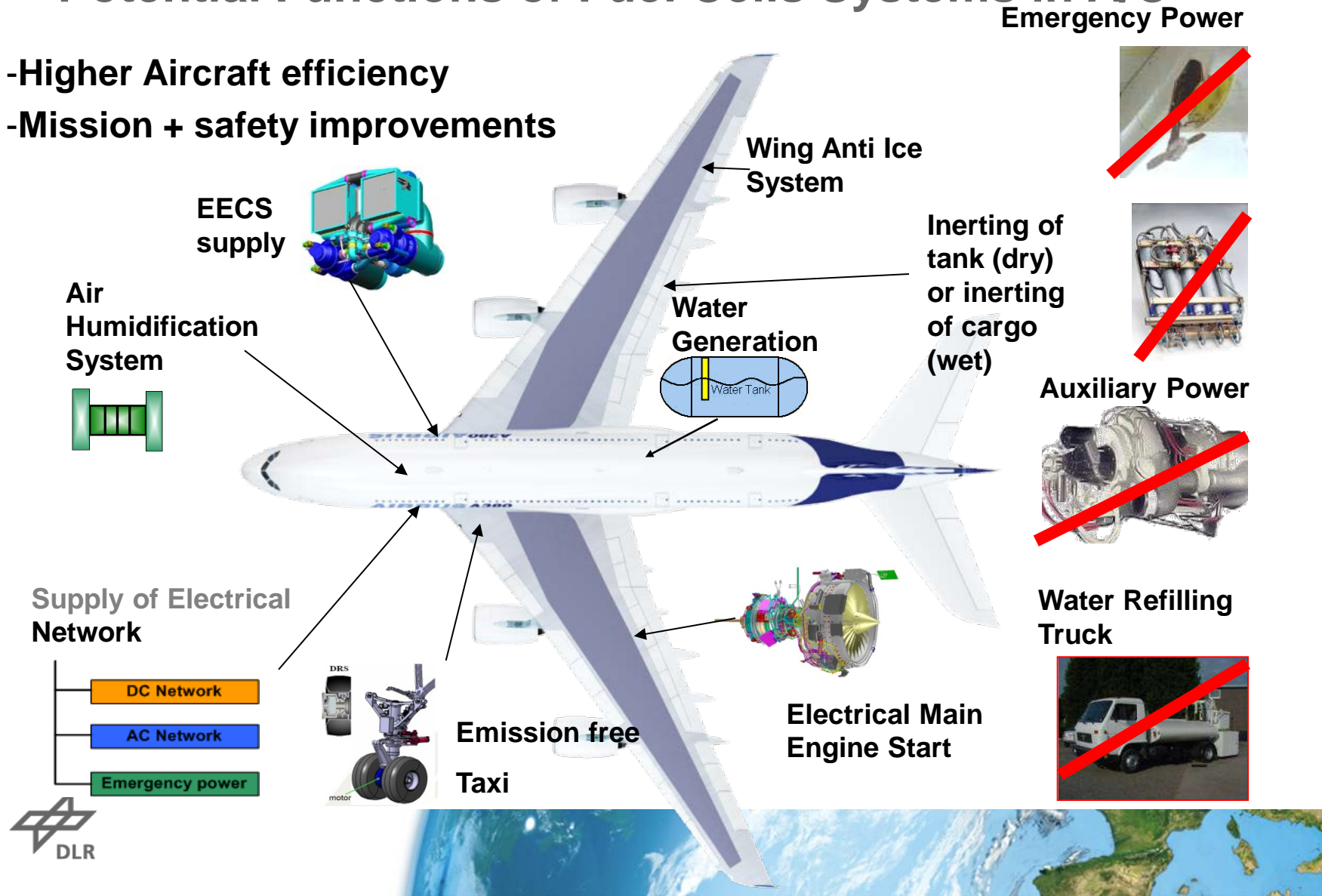
- Ca. **91% of Benzene** emissions from APU or idling engines



Data: Airport Stuttgart 2010

Potential Functions of Fuel Cells Systems in A/C

- Higher Aircraft efficiency
- Mission + safety improvements



DLR Demonstrators and Research Aircraft

- Multifunctional Auxiliary Power Unit for commercial passenger aircraft (large market and Airbus interest)
- Motor glider as test platform with propulsion system for general aviation, military and surveillance

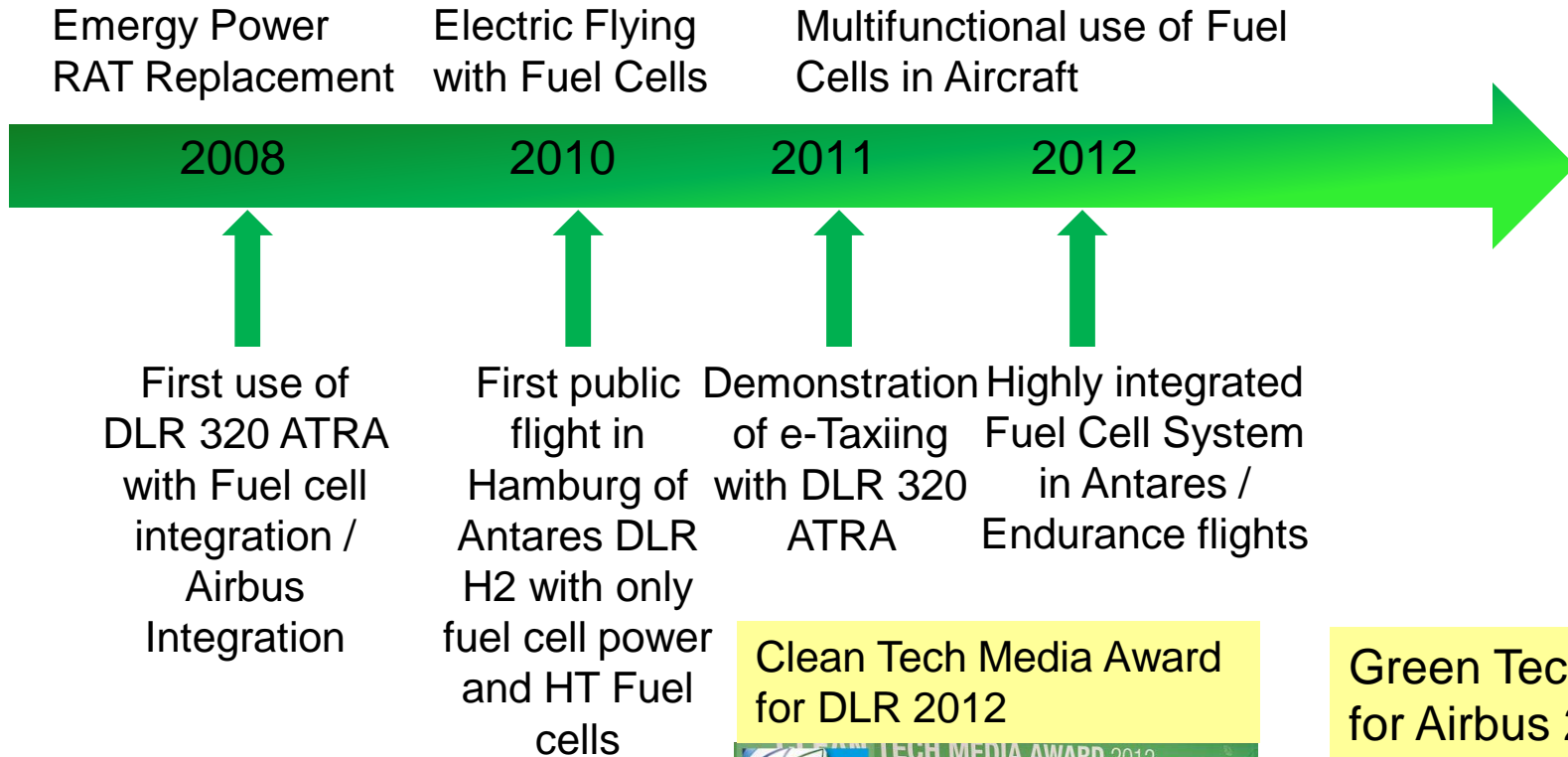
A320 ATRA
used in collaboration with Airbus



Antares DLR-H2
Test platform and research



Fuel Cell System Development



Clean Tech Media Award
for DLR 2012



Green Tech Award
for Airbus 2013



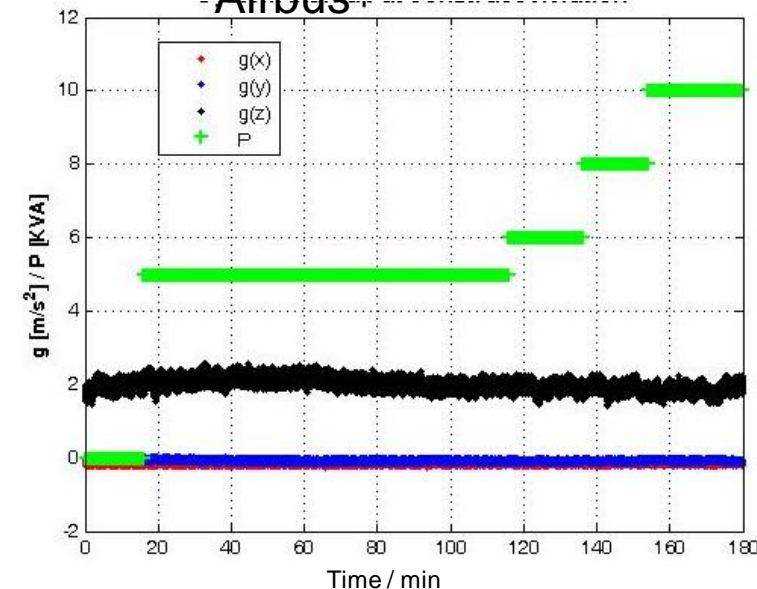
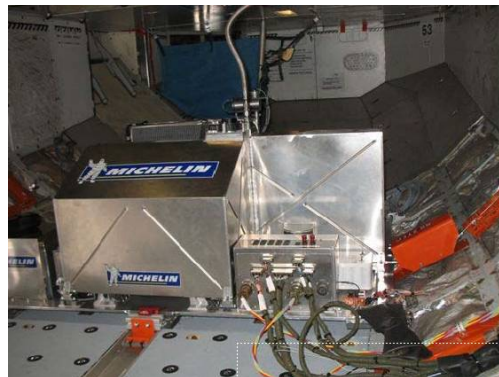
Initial Results – Fuel Cell Emergency Power System Test Flights 2008

- Immediate power after failure of power generation
- Integration into the aircraft body -> independent of flight velocity

Benefits compared to Ram Air Turbine:

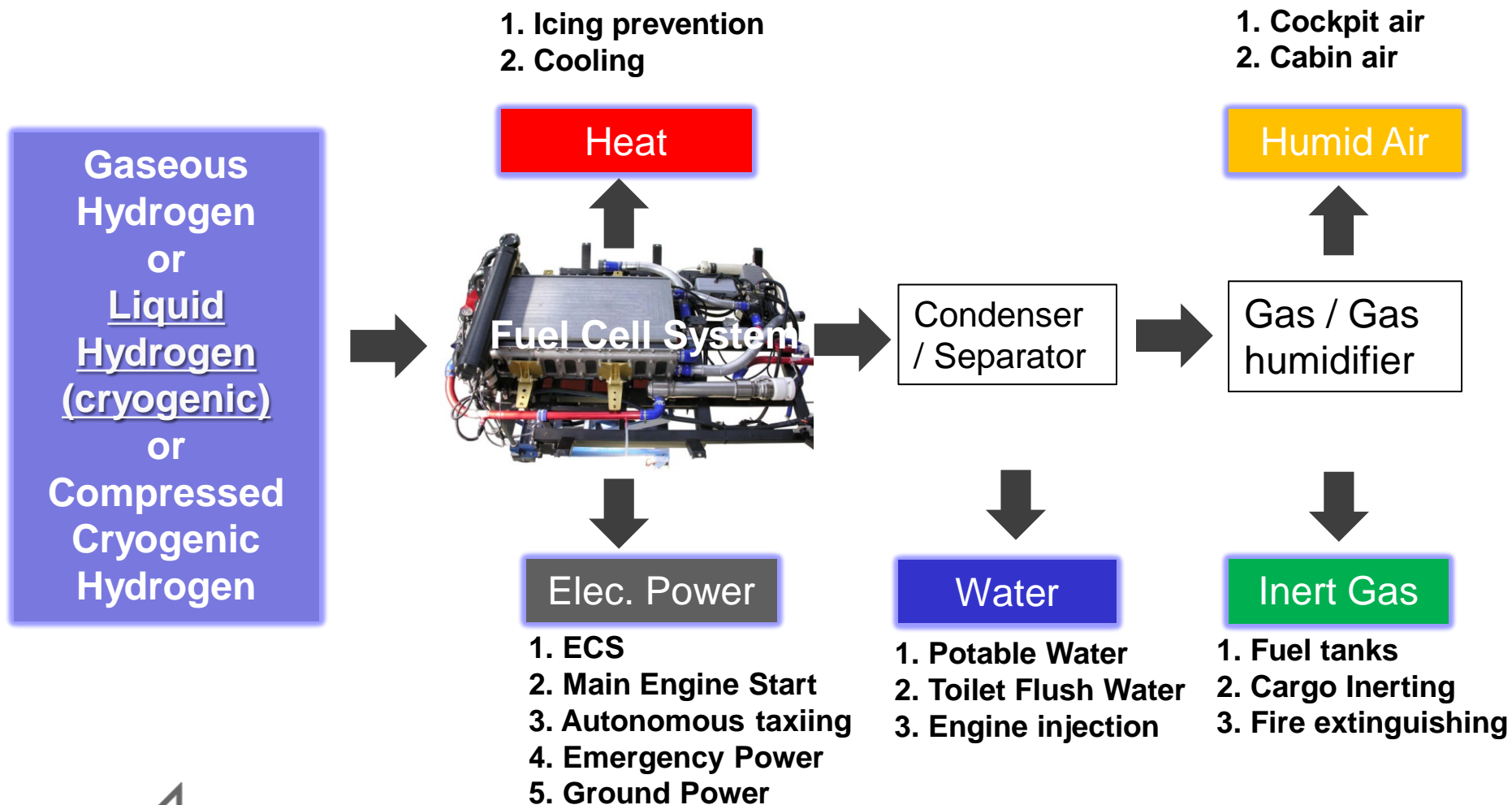
- Weight reduction without influence on flow resistance
- Possibility of switch-off and reactivation of system
- **Maximum power independent of flight phase (flight velocity and flight height)**
- **Less maintenance (no moving parts)**

Test flights performed in cooperation with Airbus 2008; integration by Airbus

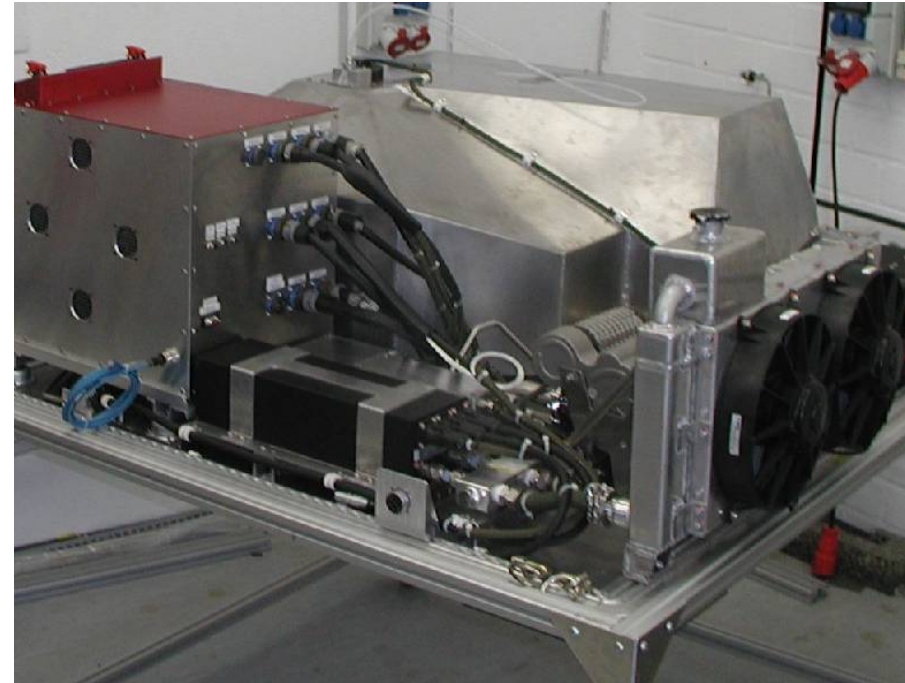
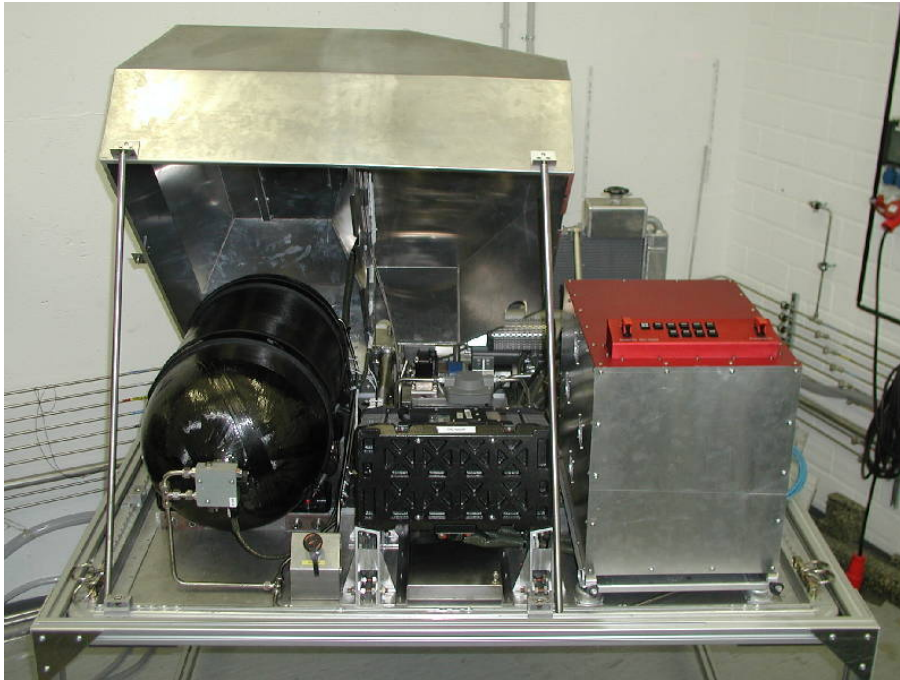


→ Constant power during acceleration in flight (30.000ft)!

Multifunctional Fuel Cell System (Airbus Concept)



DLR Fuel Cell System for Flight Testing



Air Fuel Cell System for multifunctional use: Power > 12.5 kW

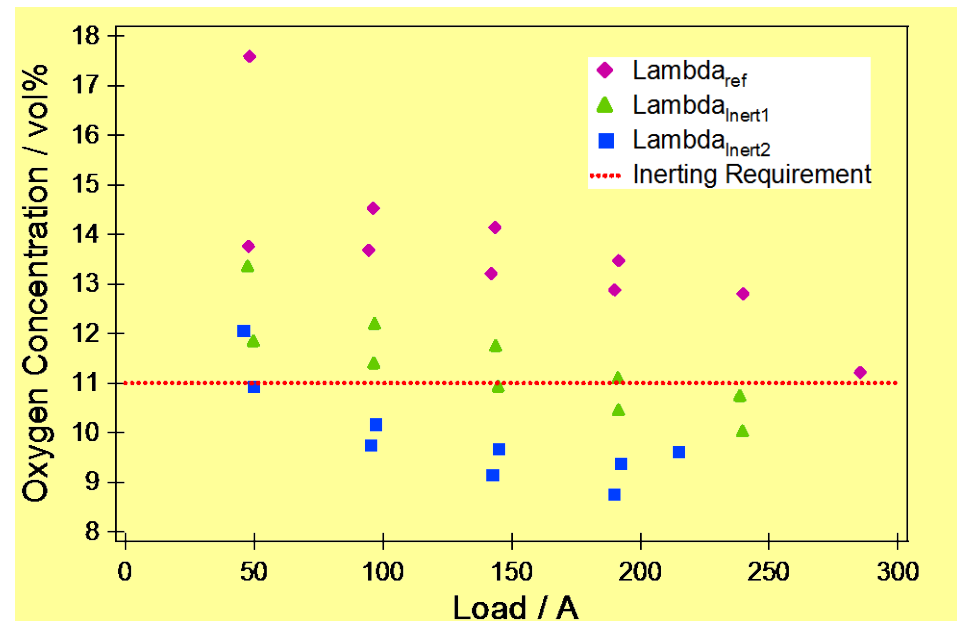
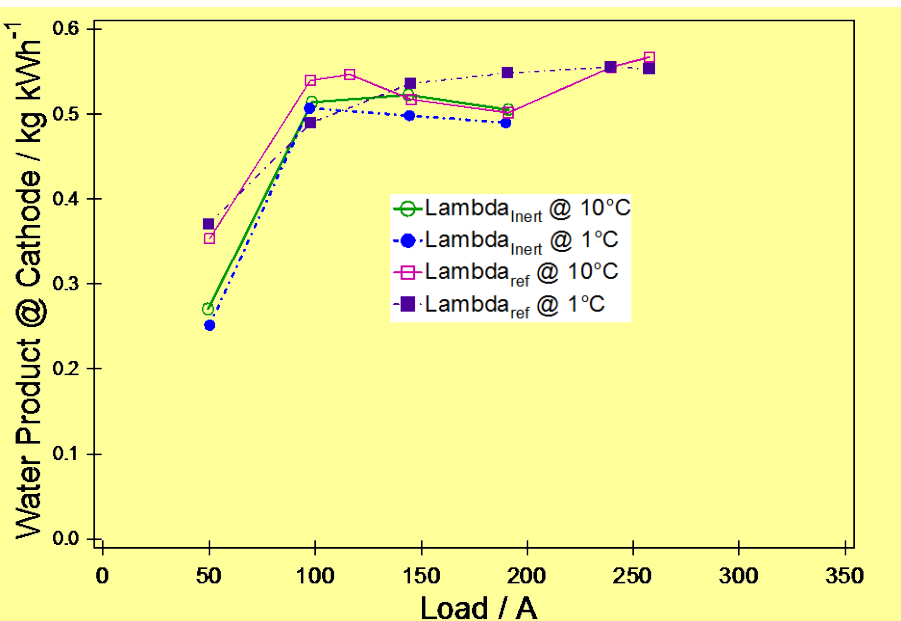
Water generation and inerting function demonstrated



Multifunctional Fuel Cell System

System of 12 kW electrical power with aircraft relevant design shows inert gas generation (oxygen content < 12 Vol.%) and water generation

Major importance is air stoichiometry



Modelling for flight operation according to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) publications



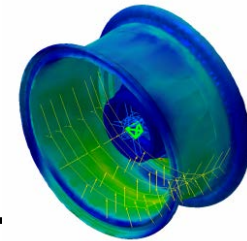
DLR Development Emission-free Taxiing with Fuel Cell and Electric Nose Wheel Drive



Multifunctional fuel cell system in cargo bay
- Output Voltage 300 VDC

DC/DC
+
DC/AC

Control
Box
and
Data
Aquisition



High Torque 11.000 Nm



DLR Development Emission-free Taxiing

**Emmission free taxi on ground (nose wheel or main wheel)
Saves up to 1200h/year engine time with lower emissions (e.q. A320)**



**Fuel cell driven nose
wheel drive of an
Airbus A320**

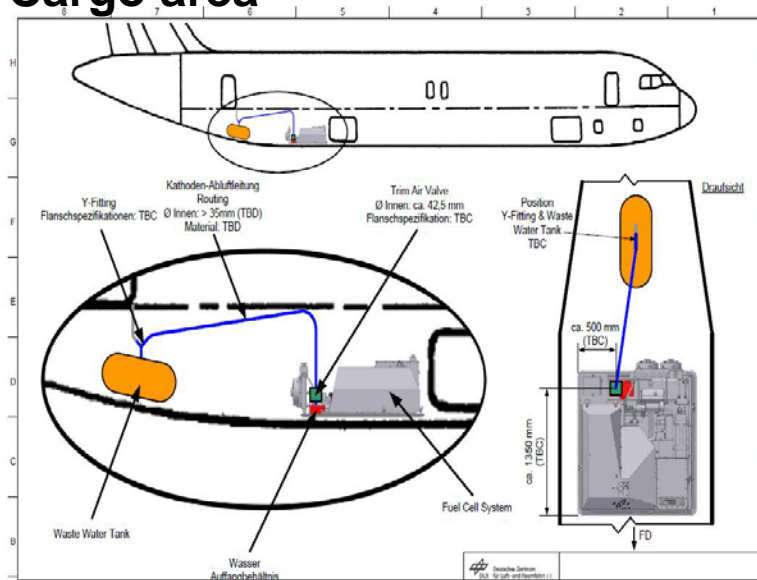
→ Test on A/C 2011



System Installation of DLR Fuel Cell System in Airbus A320 ATRA

(Advanced Technology Research Aircraft)

Installation of fuel cell in the Cargo area

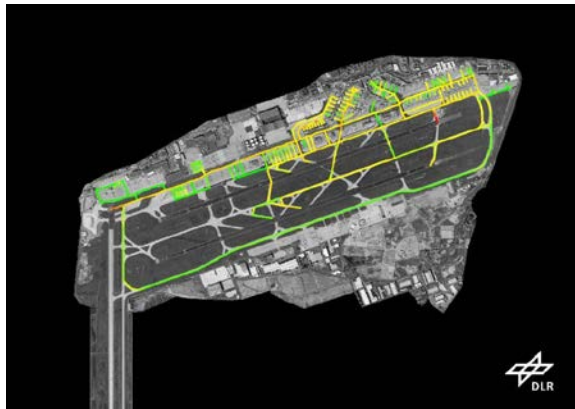


Electrical drive in nose wheel

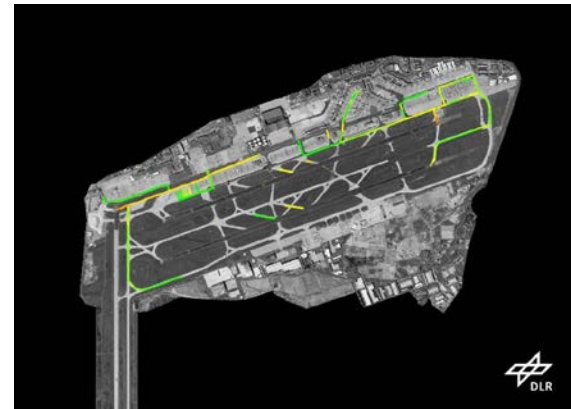


Savings Potential (calculated for Frankfurt – Airport)

**fuel consumption A320 + B737
conventional**



**fuel consumption A320 + B737
electrical drive**



	Saving by fuel cell technology	
Jet fuel	44.267 kg/d	(-18,2 %)
CO ₂ emissions	- 135.919 kg/d	(-18,7 %)
H ₂ O emissions	- 53.375 kg/d	(-18,7 %)

**Reduction of acoustic
noise**
120 dB(A) < 60 dB(A)
(ref: A 320)



Development of system concepts for multifunctional A/C applications

QFCS – theoretical analysis for inerting (ODS)

System Req

primary

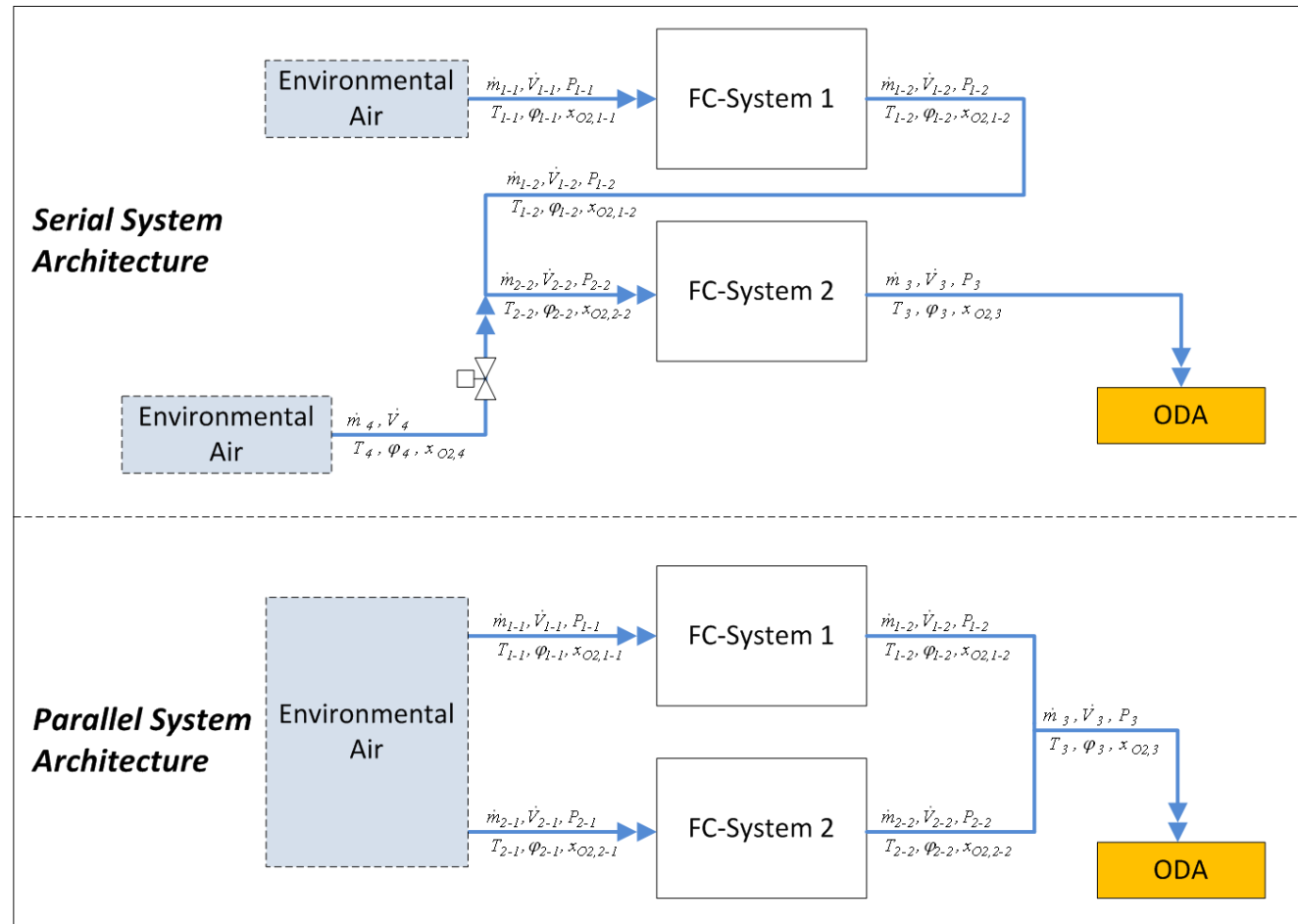
- Generation of O₂ depleted air (ODA)

secondary

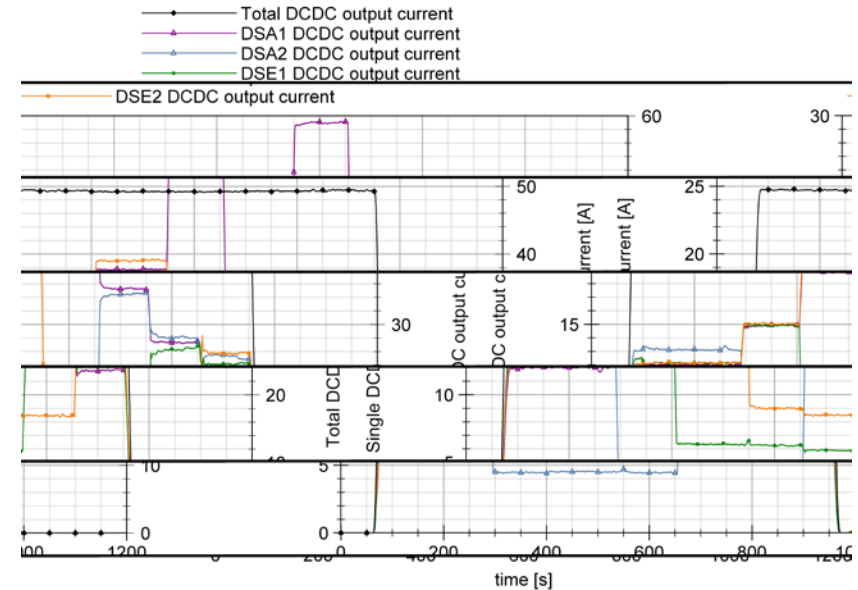
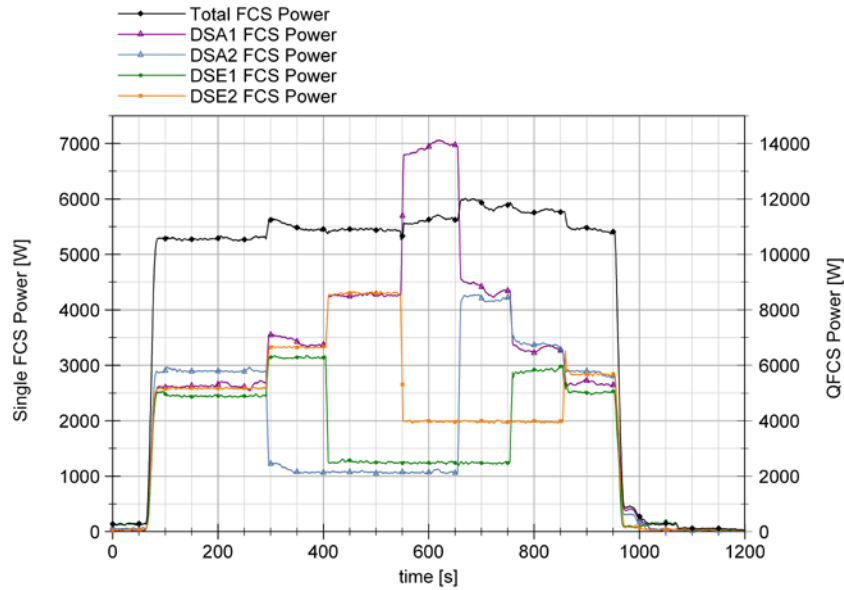
- P_{el}
- Water generation

Architecture Req

- high P_{el}
- redundancy
- „Fail safe“ concept
- reliability
- flexibility
- Multi-functional capability



Demonstration of prototypes - multiple system coupling;



Example: Power output of 3 systems defined, 4. system „floating“
 → load distribution of subsystem can be controlled in a flexible way
 → „floating“ system provides the necessary load for power output
 → high redundancy



Demonstration of Prototypes

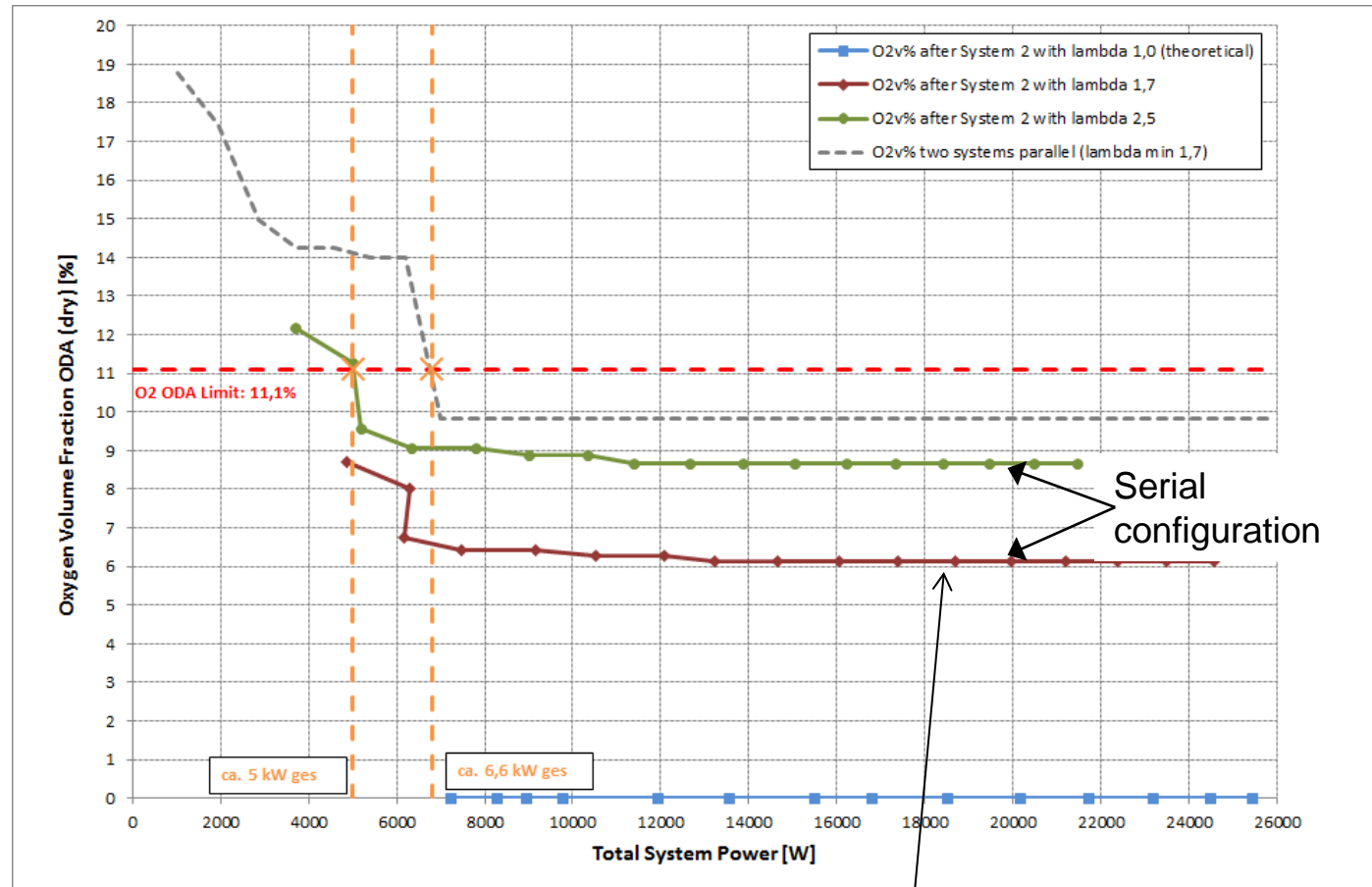
QFCS – conception² Architecture – Experimental Analysis for Inerting

Serial Architecture

- More flexibility for system control
- Low minimum power for ODA generation with <11.1%-O₂
- Optimal adaption of λ_{cath} for operation possible

Parallel Architecture

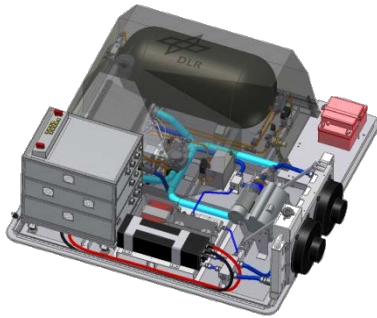
- ODA x_{O_2} stoichiometry limit of $\lambda_{cath}=1.8$ is possible
- So far no optimization of ODA generation with dynamics and water management possible



ODA – gas composition with < 11%Vol O₂

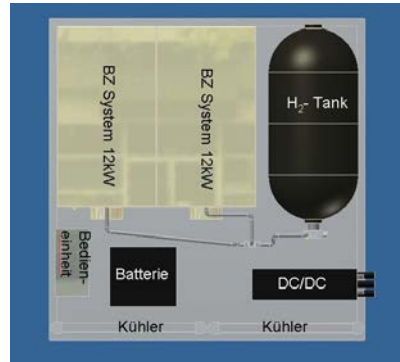
Fuel Cell Aircraft and Airport Applications at the DLR

Airworthy technology development platform for A320



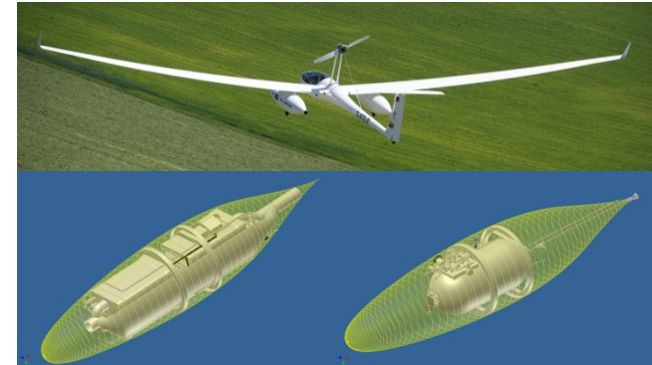
for emergency power
for multifunctional use
→ APU
energy source for nose
wheel drive

Modular architecture development platform



for GPU applications
for high torque airport
applications (transport)

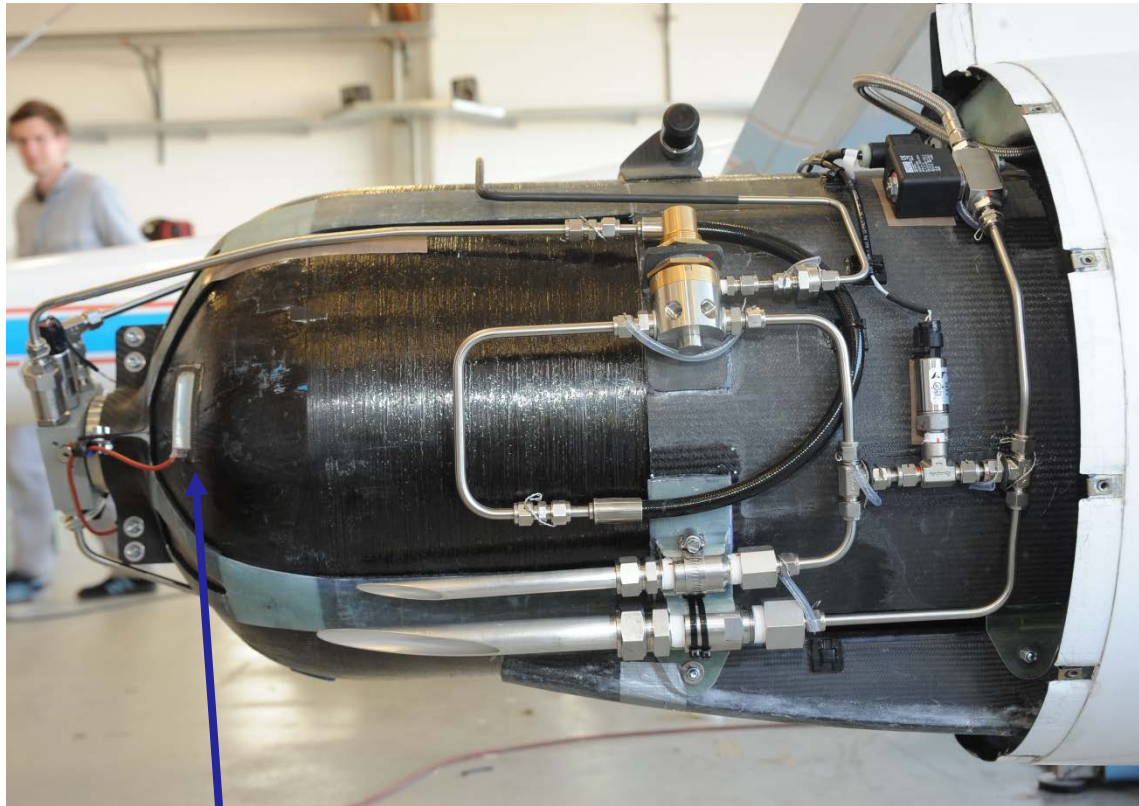
Modular airworthy propulsion platform Antares DLR H2



for UAV applications
for general aviation
(up to 6 Pax or utility)



Hydrogen storage system



In-tank valve

2 in-tank valves:

1 operation

1 emergency bypass

Pressure regulator:

350 bar → 8 bar

Temperature measurement unit

Tank:

Dynetec W205

Dimensions 415mm x 2110 mm

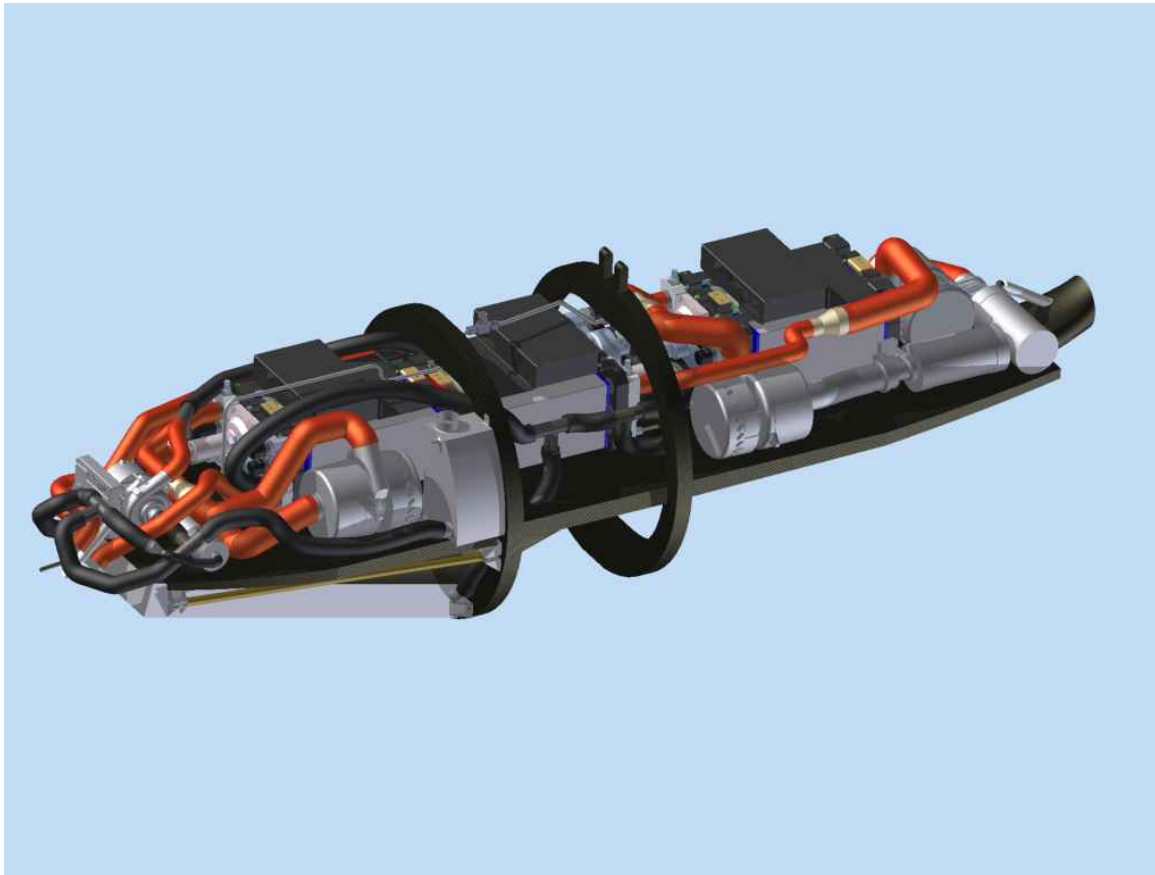
Weight 99,5 kg

Volume 74 Liter,

H₂ capacity 4.89 kg at 350 bar →
max. 5 h flight time



Fuel cell technology Antares DLR H2



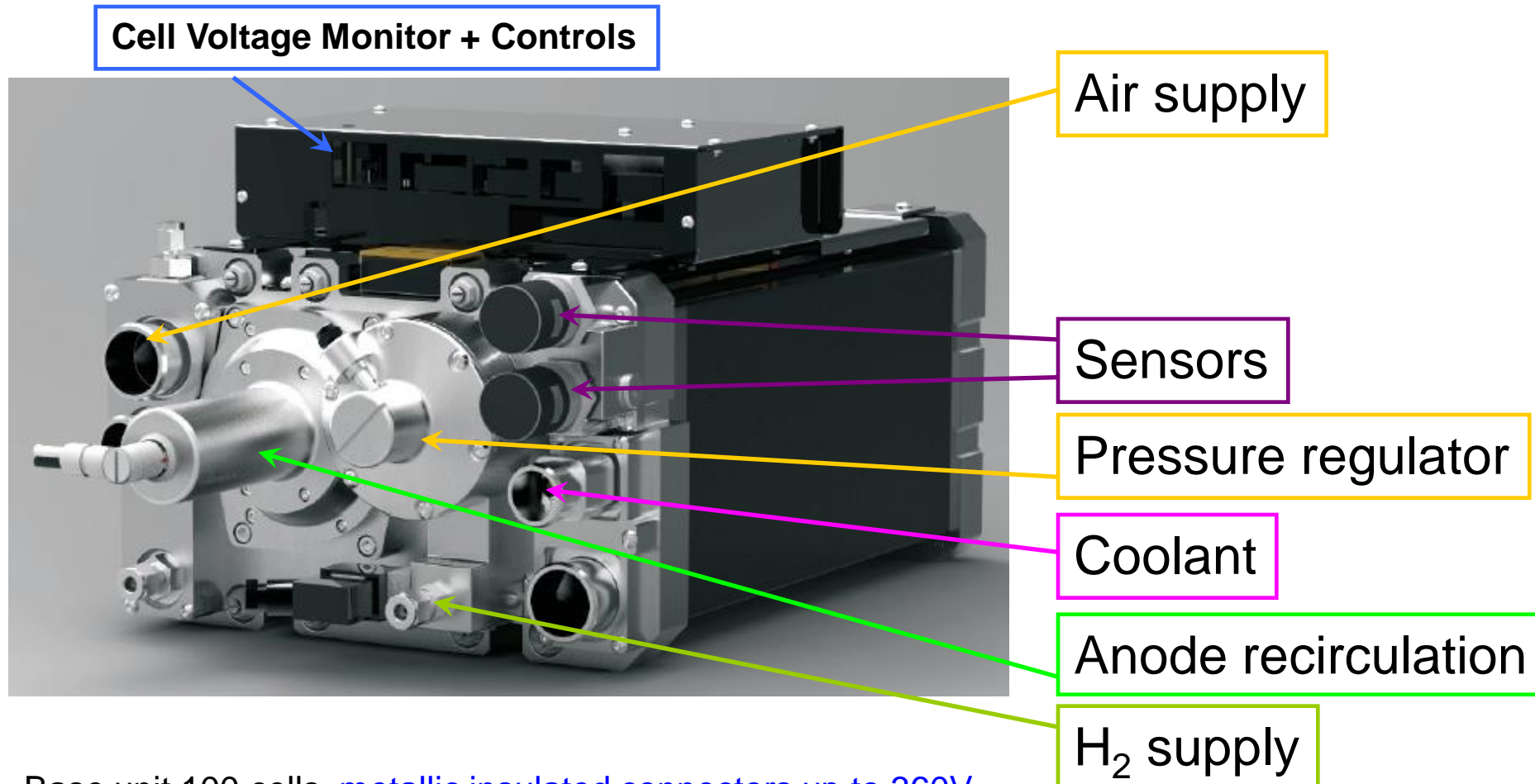
Fuel cell system power
up to 33 kW_{net}

- modular system 3 x 11 kW
- liquid cooled

Modular fuel cell system with cooling booster



LT - Next generation medium area fuel cell system **Hydrogenics**



Base unit 100 cells, **metallic insulated connectors up to 360V**

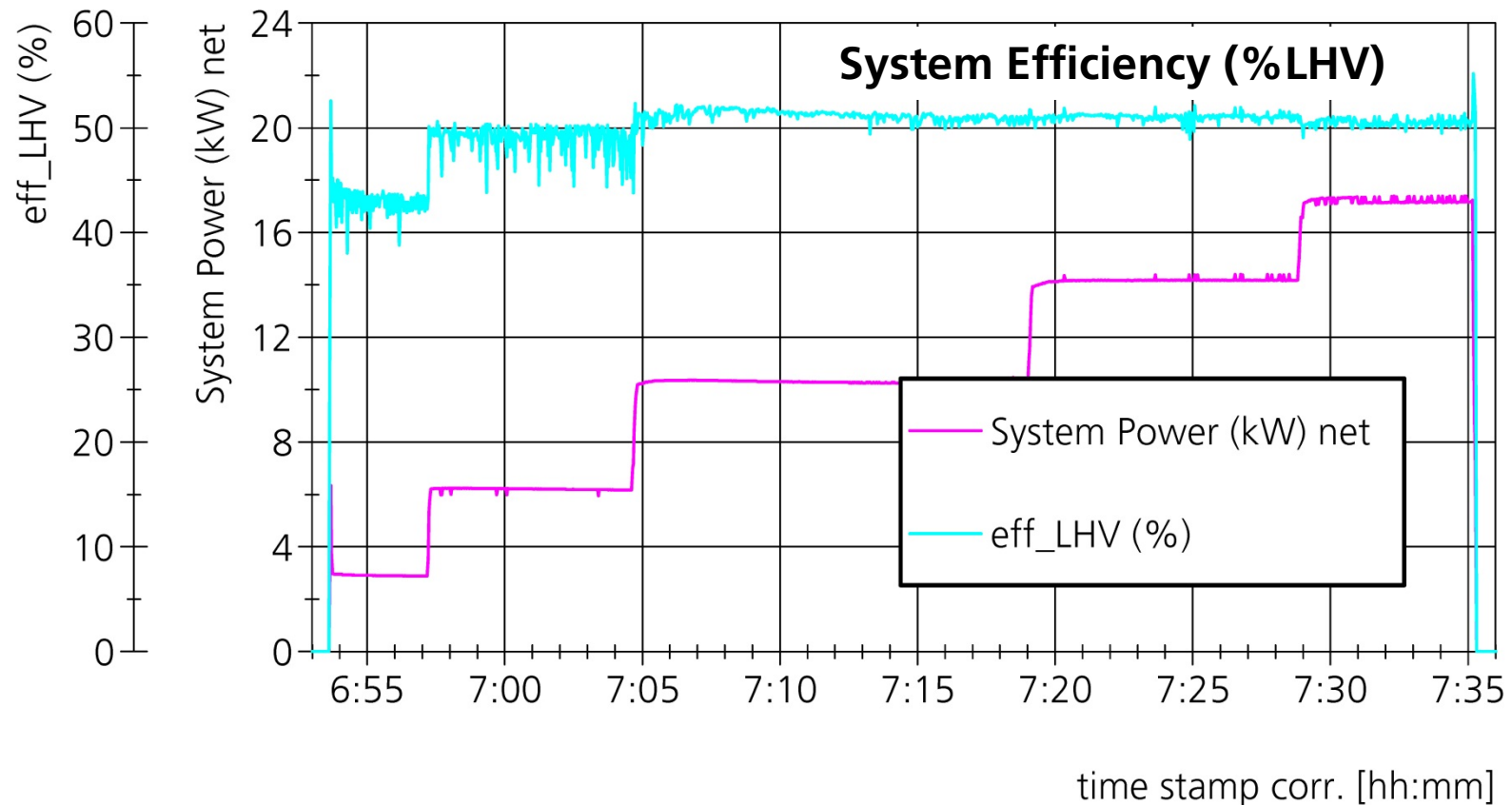
Medium active area → up to 11 kW_{net} per module

Temp up to 80° C, low pressure drop (ca. 150 mbar at max. power)



LT - Next generation medium area fuel cell system

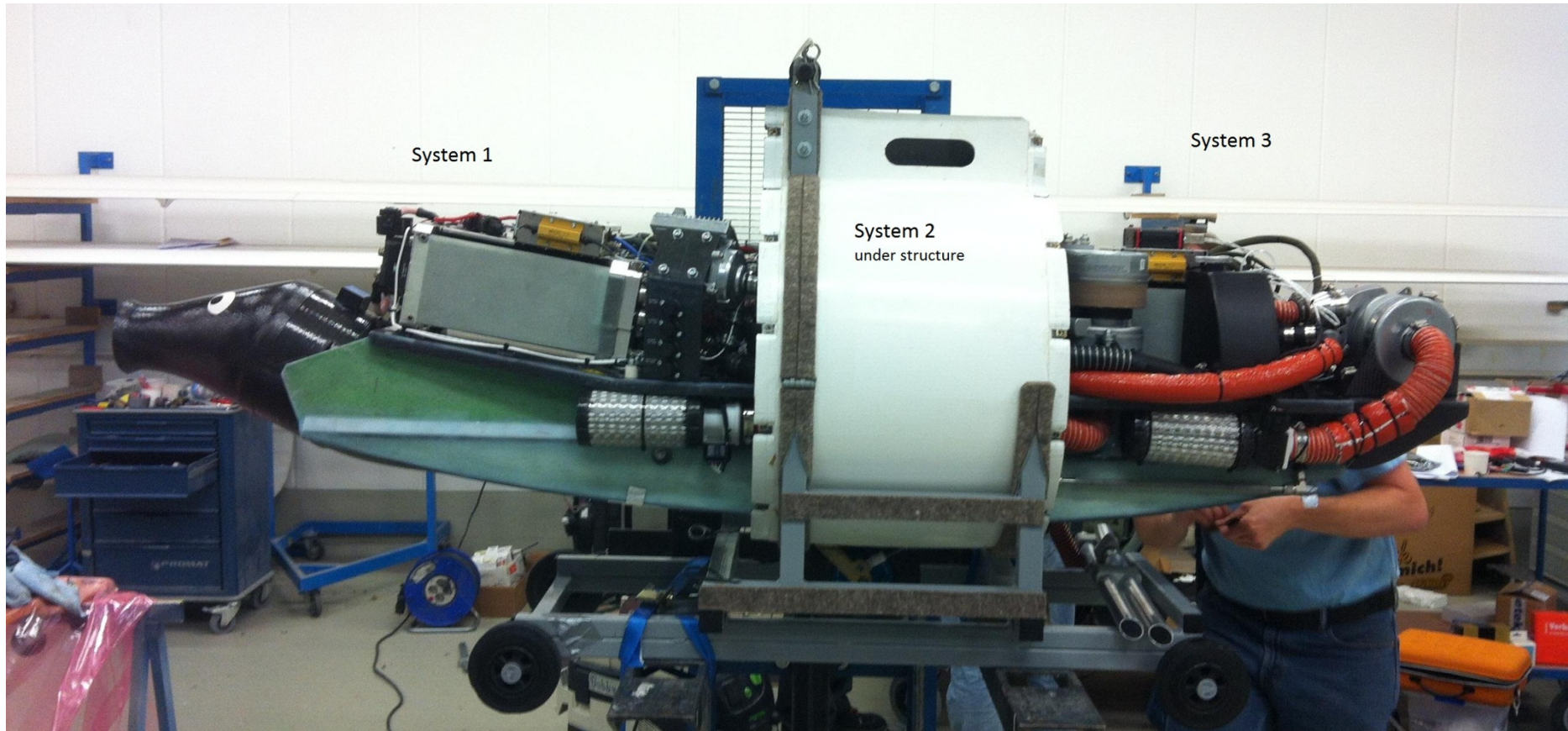
Lab Test – system efficiency 3 modules



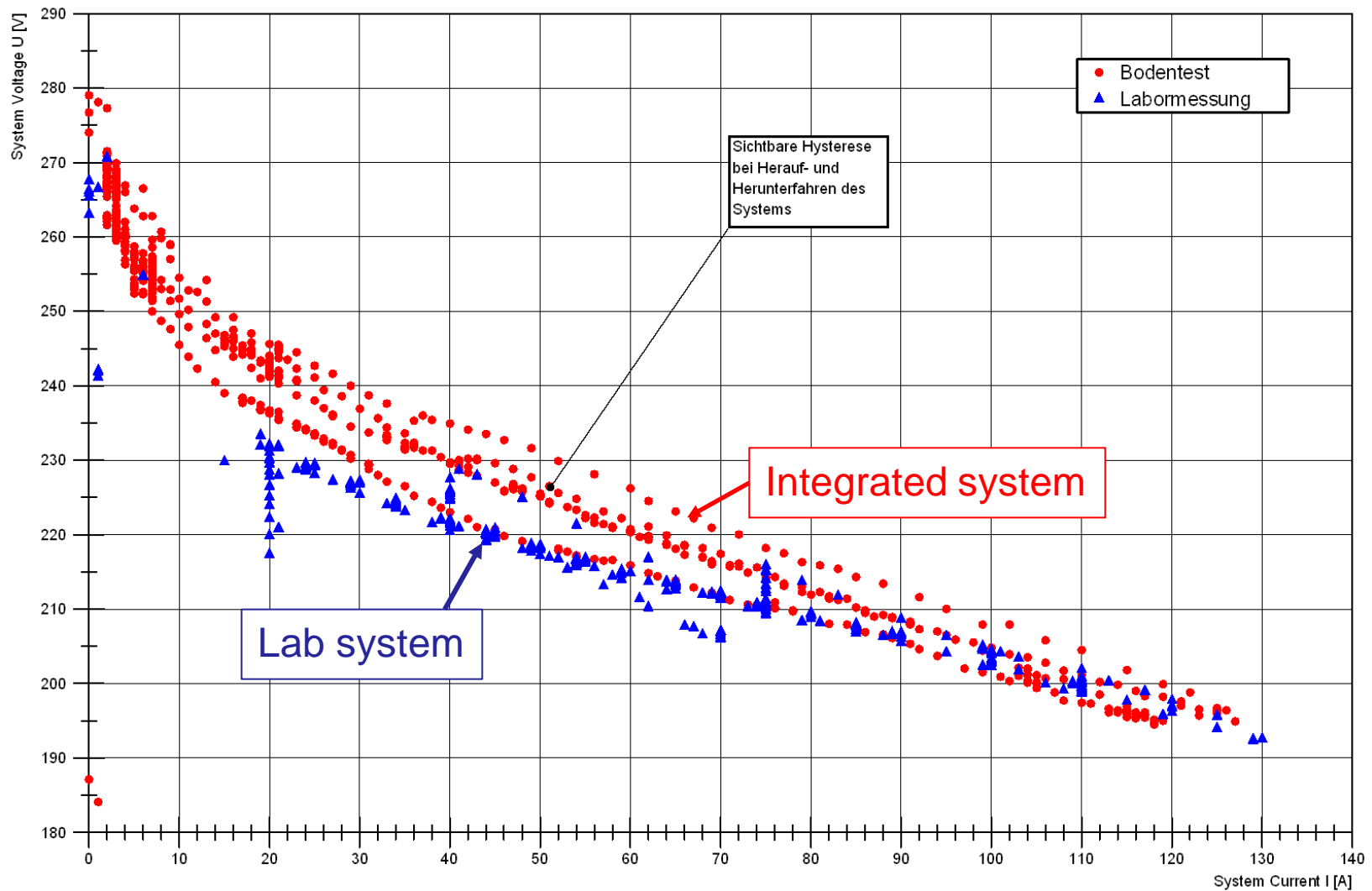
- System efficiency including cathode blower > 50% LHV (without cooling pump)



Highly integrated fuel cell system with customized parts



Startup of integrated system on ground



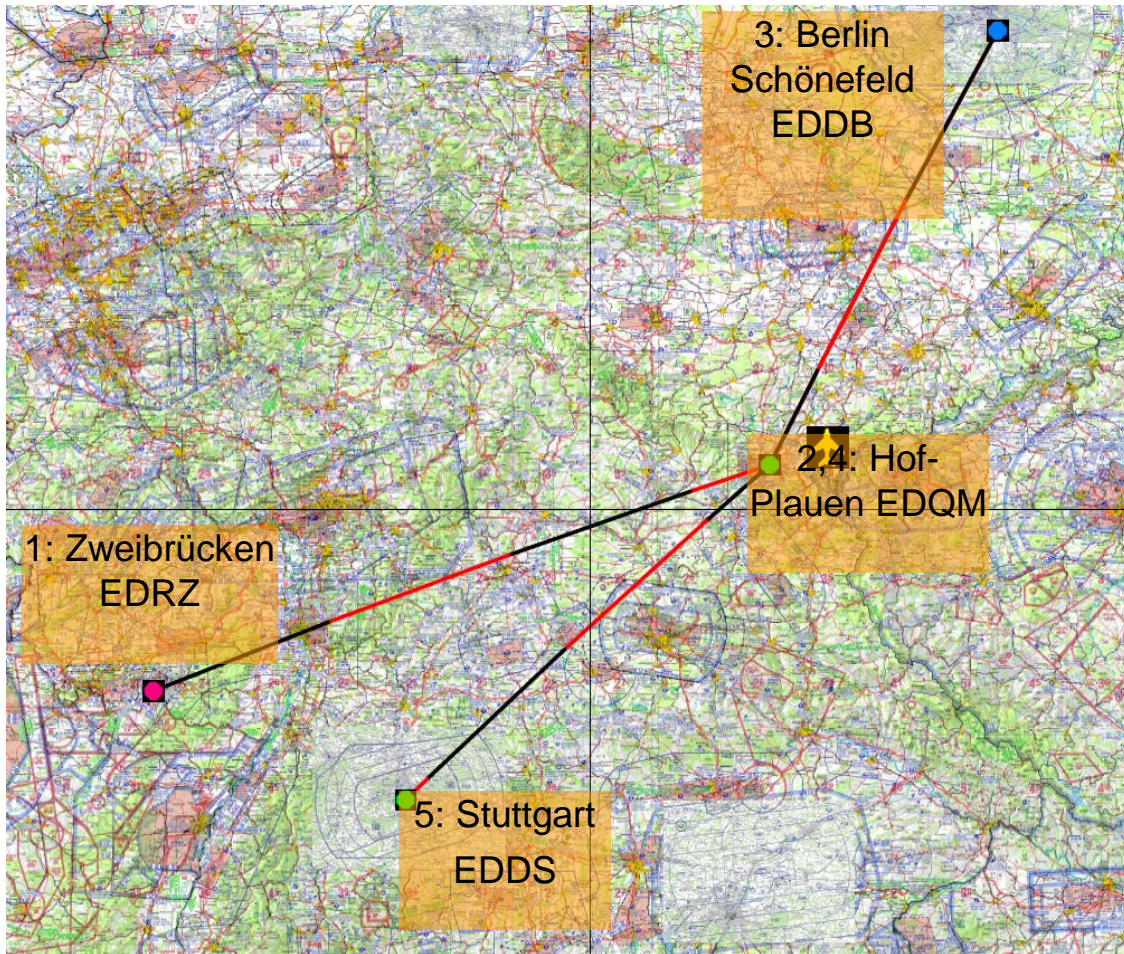
Highly integrated fuel cell system in flight



First flight on fuel cell with new systems → 7.09.2012



Fuel cell „Germany Tour“ – Antares DLR H2



Hof - Stuttgart

2 hours 18 minutes

295,5 km

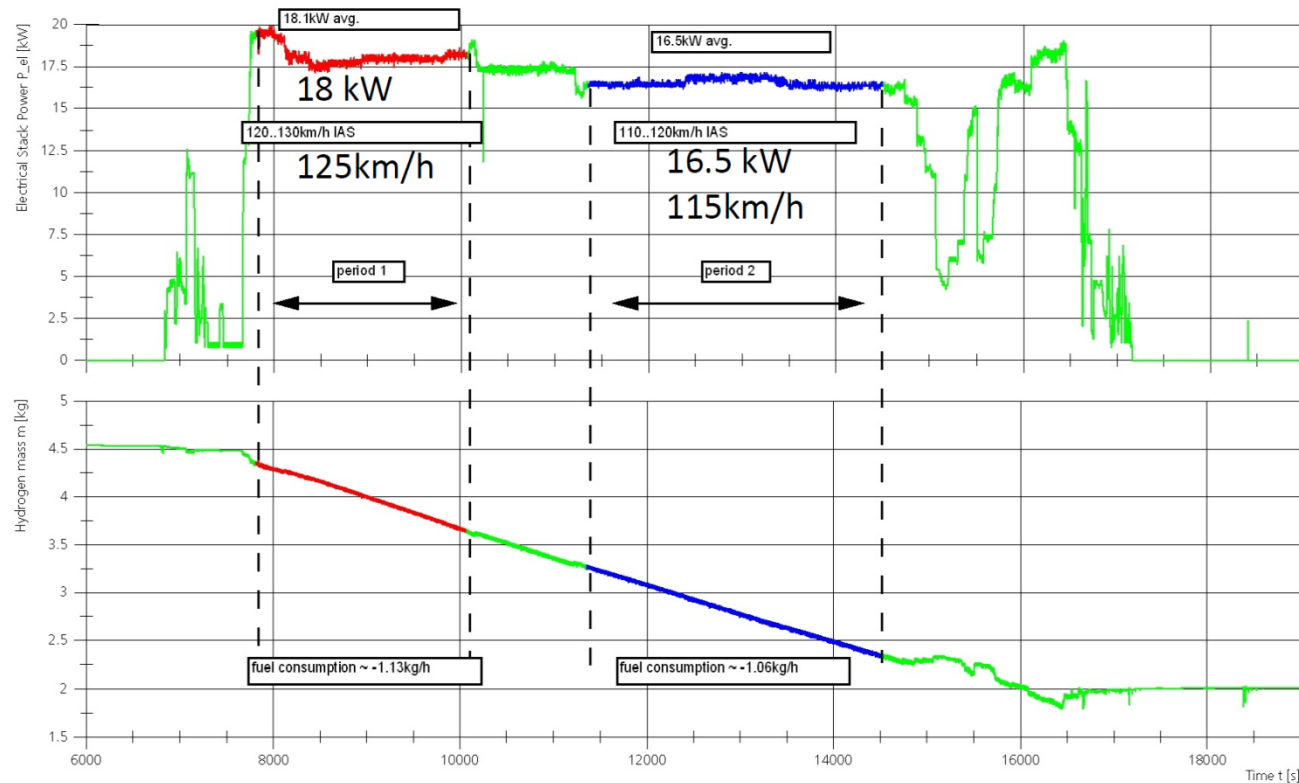
ca. 2,2kg hydrogen



Total flight time during tour: 11:42 [hh:mm], 1483,9 km



Fuel Consumption during the Flights

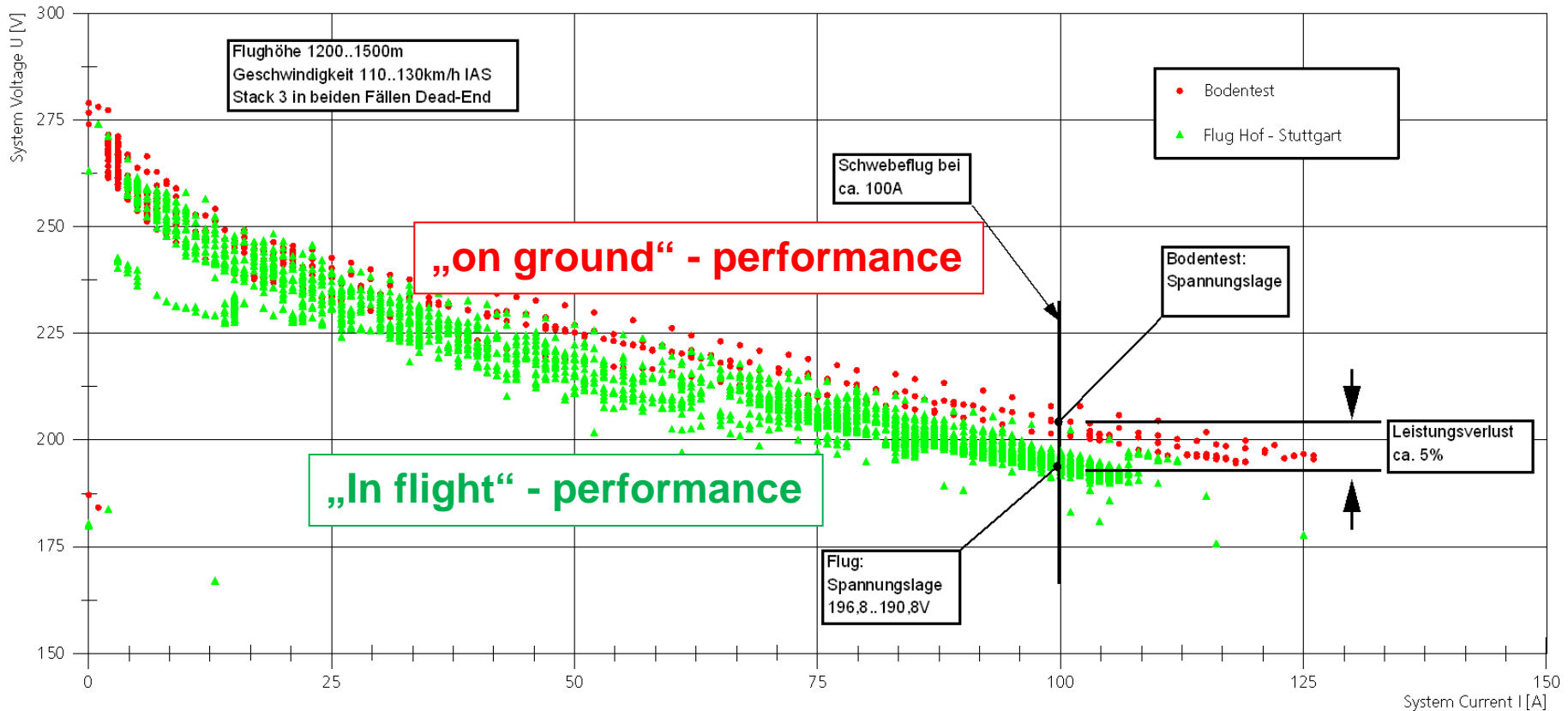


- Power consumption approx. $1\text{kg}_{\text{H}_2} / 100\text{ km}$
- Fuel cell system efficiency 48% – 52%



Fuel cell system performance

„on ground“ (150m) vs. „in flight“ (1200-1600m)



Summarized performance loss „in flight“ due to altitude and cooling effects ca. 5%





Thank you for your attention !



**Acknowledgement: Josef Kallo, Johannes Schirmer,
Airbus, LufthansaTechnik, Hydrogenics, Serenergy,
Lange Aviation, DLR Team,
and BMWi, BMVBS / NOW and Hansestadt Hamburg for funding**

